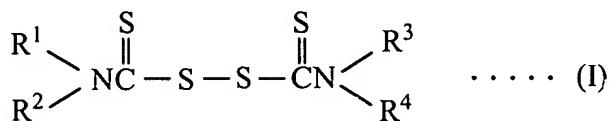


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

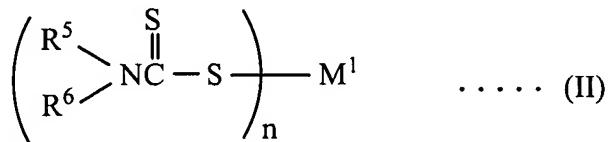
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

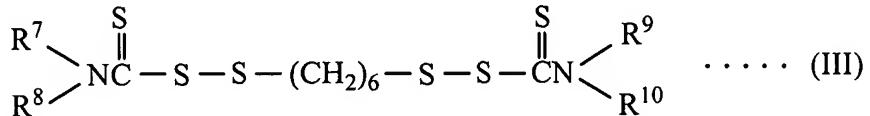
1. (currently amended): A rubber composition, high performance pneumatic tire comprising a tread formed by using a rubber composition comprising (1) a rubber component including comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polybutadiene rubber and a styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber having a content of vinyl bond of not less than 30% and a bound styrene content of more than 30 mass% but not more than 60 mass%; (2) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by the following formula (I), a compound represented by the following formula (II), a compound represented by the following formula (III) and a compound represented by the following formula (IV); and (3) an organic thiosulfate compound represented by the following formula (V):



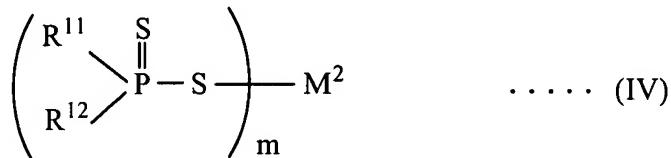
wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 3-12 or an aralkyl group having a carbon number of 7-12;



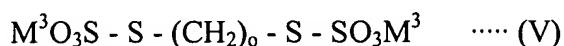
wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 7-12 or an aralkyl group having a carbon number of 7-12, and M¹ is a bivalent or polyvalent metal and n is a number equal to an atomic valence of M¹;



wherein R⁷, R⁸, R⁹ and R¹⁰ are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 3-12 or an aralkyl group having a carbon number of 7-12;



wherein R¹¹ and R¹² are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 1-18 or a cycloalkyl group having a carbon number of 5-12, and M² is zinc, copper or iron and m is a number equal to an atomic valence of M²;



wherein o is a number of 3-10 and M³ is one equivalent weight of lithium, potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, barium, zinc, nickel or cobalt, provided that the compound may contain crystal water.

2. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 1, wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ in the formula (I) are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 8-12.

3. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein each of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ is 2-ethylhexyl group.

4. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 1, wherein R¹¹ and R¹² in the formula (IV) are independently a straight or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 2-8.

5. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 4, wherein each of R¹¹ and R¹² is isopropyl group or n-butyl group.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 1, wherein a content of the styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber in the rubber component is 50-100 mass%.

8. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire rubber composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic thiosulfate compound represented by the formula (V) is sodium 1,6-hexamethylene dithiosulfate dihydrate.

9. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire~~rubber~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein an amount in total amount of the compound of the formula (I), the compound of the formula (II) and the compound of the formula (III) is 0.5-10 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

10. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire~~rubber~~ composition according to claim 9, wherein an amount of the compound of the formula (I) is 0.5-10 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

11. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire~~rubber~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein an amount of the compound of the formula (IV) is 0.1-5 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

12. (currently amended): A high performance pneumatic tire~~rubber~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein an amount of the compound of the formula (V) is 1-10 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

13. (canceled).